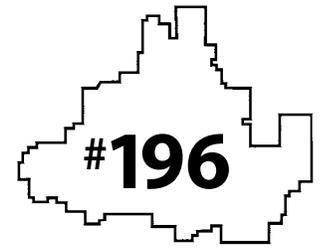




# Spotlight



Winter 2016

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## First day smiles

A little rain couldn't dampen the excitement of these kindergarten students on their first day of school Sept. 6 at Oak Ridge Elementary School of Leadership, Environmental and Health Sciences. Oak Ridge and Echo Park Elementary School of Leadership, Engineering and Technology are the district's newest magnet schools. The district is accepting applications through Jan. 9 for magnet school enrollment next school year (see story on p.11).

## Bond improvements starting to take shape

Last November, voters overwhelmingly approved a bond referendum that provided the district with \$180 million in funding authority to make safety and security improvements at all schools, provide additional space for learning and increase access to technology for all students.

The improvements will be completed over the next two-and-one-half years, according to a schedule developed by a Facilities Steering Team of district administrators, facilities staff and representatives from Wold Architects and construction manager Wenck, Inc.

The top priorities in the schedule are the first phase of safety and security upgrades and adding space at the elementary level to relieve overcrowding that has resulted from the addition of full-day kindergarten, the expansion of school-based preschool and enrollment growth in the southern part of the district.

The foundation is complete and walls

*continued on page 4*

## Enrollment continues to increase and one-third are students of color

Enrollment in the Rosemount-Apple Valley-Eagan Public Schools is up 391 students over last year, according to the 2016 enrollment report presented to the School Board in October.

The official enrollment report is submitted to the Minnesota Department of Education each year in early October to determine funding the district will receive from the state. The 2016 report, presented by Student Information Supervisor **Kim Reis**, shows there were 28,182 total students enrolled on Oct. 3 this year compared to 27,791 last year, an increase of

1.4 percent for the second year in a row.

This is the fourth consecutive year of rising enrollment in the district after nearly a decade of slight enrollment declines each year. District 196 remains the fourth largest public school district in Minnesota, behind Anoka-Hennepin, St. Paul and Minneapolis. The district's enrollment last peaked in the 2003-04 school year at 28,572 students, 390 more than this year's total.

The district's largest class this year is grade 10, with 2,166 students, and the smallest is kindergarten, with 1,944

students. The breakdown by level shows that on Oct. 3, 2016, the district had ...

- 12,172 elementary school students (grades K-5), an increase of 217 students from last year;
- 6,296 middle school students (grades 6-8), an increase of 256;
- 8,386 high school students (grades 9-12), a decrease of 92;
- 842 students in center-based special education programs, an increase of 29, and

*continued on page 7*

Isaacs elected to fill vacancy on School Board . . . . .p.2

Calendars approved for next two school years. . . . .p.6

Apply now for magnet school enrollment in 2017-18 . . p.11

## Isaacs ‘honored and privileged’ to serve children on School Board

**Sachin Isaacs** of Burnsville was elected to the District 196 School Board in a special election held as part of the state-wide primary Aug. 9.

Isaacs took the oath of office and joined the board at its Sept. 12 meeting. He will fill the remaining term of **Rob Duchscher**, who was re-elected to a four-year term last November, then resigned in March after moving out of the district. The term runs through Jan. 6, 2020.

“I am honored and privileged to be given this opportunity to serve our children,” Isaacs said during his first meeting. “I’m truly grateful to the incredible educators of ISD 196 for their faith, support and endorsement.”

Isaacs was also a candidate in the 2015 School Board election, finishing sixth of seven in a race for four open seats, which were won by Duchscher and three other incumbents. This time, he finished first among seven candidates seeking the one vacant seat.

Isaacs received 2,171 votes or approximately 29 percent of the 7,542 total votes cast in the board election. Vote totals for the other six candidates were as follows: **Wendy Brekken** of Inver Grove Heights, 1,476; **Craig Angrimson** of Apple Valley, 1,012; **Michael Atherley** of Rosemount,



New School Board Director **Sachin** (pronounced “Such-Inn”) **Isaacs** posed with wife **Alyssa** and daughters **Priyanka** and **Ayannah** (right) before he took the oath of office Sept. 12 to begin his term on the board.

956; **John Millea** of Rosemount, 668; **Christopher Dahling** of Rosemount, 605; and **Rachel Wetzsteon** of Lakeville, 576; there were 78 write-in votes. Angrimson and Atherley were also candidates in the November 2015 board election.

Isaacs is a senior product manager of clinical assessments at NCS Pearson and has degrees in business from Winona State University and the University of St. Thomas.

### Independent School District 196

#### Rosemount-Apple Valley-Eagan Public Schools

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www.District196.org

Spotlight is a quarterly publication mailed to every household in District 196 to inform parents and other residents about district news.

Send comments on *Spotlight* to  
Tony.Taschner@District196.org

District 196 does not discriminate in employment or in any of its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, creed, religion, national origin, sex, marital status, status with regard to public assistance, familial status, membership or activity in a local human rights commission, disability, sexual orientation, age or genetic information. District 196 provides equal access to designated youth groups. The Director of Human Resources (651-423-7859) has been designated to respond to employment-related inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies. The Director of Elementary Education (651-423-7782) and the Director of Secondary Education (651-423-7712) have been designated to respond to student-related inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies. The Director of Special Education (651-423-7629) has been designated to respond to inquiries concerning the rights of a student with a disability. The mailing address for all directors is 3455 153rd Street W, Rosemount, MN 55068.

## Stay informed about School Board actions

The District 196 School Board meets on the second and/or fourth Monday of each month, beginning at 6 p.m., at Dakota Ridge School in Apple Valley. The public is welcome to attend board meetings and encouraged to stay informed of board actions.

Regular board meetings for the remainder of the 2016-17 school year are scheduled for Dec. 12, Jan. 9, Feb. 6, March 13, April 10 and 24, May 15 and June 12 and 26.

The board occasionally holds special meetings on other days and at other locations in the district. Times and locations of

all board meetings are posted at district schools and on the School Board page of the district website and publicized in local newspapers.

Video of all regular School Board meetings is available on demand at District196.org the morning following each meeting. Meetings are also played back on District 196 TV Channel 189 on the Charter Communications system serving residents of Apple Valley, Lakeville and Rosemount; Channel 19 on the Comcast system serving Burnsville and Eagan, and Channel 20 on Town Square Television for residents of Inver Grove Heights.

**Si usted habla español y tiene preguntas, favor de llamar al teléfono (952)431-8993.**

**HADDI ADD SOMAAALI TAHAY OO AAD QABTID WAX SUAAL AH FADLAN LA SOO XIRIIR FAISAL MADAR (952)769-7625**

إذا كنت تتكلم اللغة العربية و كانت لديك أسئلة حول المدرسة الرجاء الإتصال بفaisal محمد (Faisal Madar) و رقمه 769-7625 (952)

If you speak (Spanish/Somali/Arabic) and have questions, call... .



## Community involvement is needed and valued

*By Jane K. Berenz, superintendent*

The District 196 community has a long history of volunteer support for our schools. We appreciate parents who are involved in the classroom and at school events, and are grateful for those who step forward to provide leadership at a districtwide level. Most of our advisory councils and committees are ongoing; the two I will mention next have been convened for a limited time for specific purposes.

Last spring, district leaders began the process to establish an attendance area for our new elementary school that will open next fall. Principals of the six elementary schools and two middle schools that would potentially be impacted by the changes provided names of parents to serve on the Elementary Attendance Area Reconfiguration Task Force this fall. Task force members were charged with presenting the School Board with a recommendation to establish an attendance area for the new school. They were expected to remain objective and have a districtwide perspective.

The 14 parents led the reconfiguration process in September and shared their recommendation at two community listening sessions and two School Board meetings (*see article on p.5*). Citizen members of the task force are Natalie Albers, Stephanie Charpentier, Dave Chumbley, Tanya Danner, Prophese Fuentes, Kathie Hanson, Kimberly Lalonde, Cari Masuen, Jeff Nelson, Karla Neuenschwander, Kimberly Sanderson, Karin Smalkoski, Debbie Stovall and Kristine Tilstra.

Another recently convened group is the Community Collaboration Council, which is charged with reviewing, reflecting and assessing district needs in the areas of equity, achievement and integration, and providing input in the development of a new three-year equity plan for our district. This ad-hoc council has been formed five times since 2004, when our district was first required by the state to draft and implement an integration and educational equity plan.

The council has met to build shared knowledge, held four Community Dialogues to gather citizen input and completed equity walkthroughs at 12 of our schools. They will continue to meet through early 2017 to identify needs and priorities, and provide feedback on a draft plan that will ultimately be presented to the School Board and state for approval. Citizen members are Daniel Cervantes, JungChup Chomphel, Gary Dion, Ivette Izea-Martinez, Brenda Lujan, Andrea Marell, Lauren Markowski, Valerie McLendon, Kiera Newson, Candy Owusu Amankwah, Jay Hove, Ryan Hove, Veronica Ramos, Yvonne Lind, Trish Solliday and Joann Southwell.

In recognition of all who share their time and talents in support of our community's children, here are the names of the other citizens and students who are serving on our district's advisory councils and committees this school year.

**Budget Advisory Council** – Citizen members are Karen Harrold, Grace Keliher, Chris Knight, Gary Krueger, Chad LaBahn, Jeff Little, Charles "Chas" McCready, Andrew Schornack and Christopher Wong.

**Community Education Advisory Council** – Citizen members are Sarah Carlson, Alex Cook, Maima Fant, Amy Feeder, Dan Frankefeld, Anna Graves, Irina Kahar, Jenny Kidambi, Heidi Krech, James "J.J." Miller, Divya Mouli, Jill Murphy, Marina Navarro, Mike Port, Brian Schreifels, Kristine Tilstra and Anita Trivedi Pagey.

**Curriculum and Instruction Advisory Council** – Citizen members are Margie Broman, Frances Bryant, Jonathan Buckley, Neil Buesing, Michael Crider, Gary Dion, Sanna Ellingson, Johnny Gill, Christine Krogh, Rafia Omer, Kris Roberts, Retno Saridewi-Wong, Katen Swannstrom, Kristen Wanken and Mike Wisniewski, and student members are Netra Duggirala, Paul Filonowich, Jane Michaelson, Katherine Turner and Sara O'Halloran.

**Early Childhood Family Services Advisory Council** – Citizen members are Nicole Arness, Heather Blair, Katie Bothum, Sarah Casady, Kim Ciresi, Todd Cogan, Michelle Doepke, Elyssa Donarski, Michael Doubrava, Josh Gaffke, Katie Gilmore, Emily Heinis, Brian Heuring, Christopher Knight, Caroline Koerner, Heidi Krech, Deena Laugen, Molly Lorenzen, Jenna Maye, Jessica Morrissey, Savitri Nauth, Melissa Nielsen, Melissa Rogan, Lori Rogers, Wendy Sawyer, Diana Stepanek and David Wermerskirchen.

**Gifted and Talented Advisory Council** – Citizen members are Jennifer Garnsworthy, Heidi Hegenbarth, Allison Henderson and Doug Oase, and student members are Rylee Smith and Anoushka Sunkum.

**Legislative Advisory Council** – Citizen members are Craig Angrimson, Nicole Arness, Valerie Dosland, Mark Engdahl, Cindy Ford, Dan Frankenfeld, Catherine "CJ" Hunter, Gary Krueger, Charles "Chas" McCready, Jason Nord, Retno Saridewi-Wong and David Unmacht.

**Native American Parent Advisory Committee** – Citizen officers are Richard Beane, John Other Medicine and Pam Peterson, and Owen Peterson is a student member.

**River Valley Project Explore Advisory Council** – Citizen members are Elaine Becker, Michelle Garrison, Caroline Gettz, Kevin Johnson, Dave Modrynski, Sona Parker, Greg Paulson, Leah Paulson, Kelly Ruiz and Brian Schreifels.

**Special Education Advisory Council** – Citizen members are Cindy Andrus, Jennie Brinkworth, Kelley Esch, Cindy Ford, Corissa Hansen, Andy Karsky, Kelly Kausel, Mary Koll, Kammy Kramer, Maleenia Mohabir, Jennifer Mortensen-Parkhurst, Thuyen Nguyen, Tara Roeckers, Melissa Sheehan, Heather Tidd, Lisa Valera and Colleen Weis.

*Jane K. Berenz*



Footings are in and walls are going up on what will be the district's nineteenth elementary school when it opens next fall at the southwest corner of 160th Street and Diamond Path in Lakeville. This aerial photo was taken in late October looking northeast across the site, with 160th Street in the background.

## New school . . . . .

**continued from front page**

are going up on what will become the district's nineteenth elementary school when it opens in fall 2017 at the southwest corner of 160th Street (County Road 46) and Diamond Path in Lakeville. The two-story, 52,000-square foot building will feature a glass-walled media center in the middle. On the west end of the building will be six clusters of five classrooms each – three clusters per story, one cluster per grade level (K-5). The school's main entrance will be on the east end, along with the office area, gym, art and music rooms, and preschool and center-based special education classrooms.

A recommendation establishing an attendance area for the new school was expected to be approved by the School Board Nov. 14 (*see article on next page*) and the principal hired Nov. 23, both of which happened after this issue of *Spotlight* went to press. School Board members are also scheduled to select the name of the new school at their Dec. 12 regular meeting.

The first phase of elementary school additions is set to begin at Echo Park and

Oak Ridge, both of which converted to magnet schools this fall. The additions are scheduled to be complete in fall 2017.

The first phase of safety and security improvements has also begun, with installation of new security cameras, upgraded door locks and emergency response buttons at some schools. This work will continue through fall 2018, depending on the schedule of other construction at each site. Entrance modifications are scheduled to be completed in fall 2017 at eight schools; all other schools will be completed in phase two, between fall 2017 and fall 2018.

By the end of this year, a new visitor management system will be installed at all schools. Under the new system, all visitors will be asked to provide a government-issued identification to enter the building. The identification card is swiped into the system and the name is checked against the national sex offender database only. If there is no match, the system takes a photo of the visitor and prints an adhesive nametag with their name and photo. The system improves security by ensuring identification of every visitor in the building at

any given time during the school day.

The plan for increasing student access to technology started this fall with grades 7, 8 and 9. Each student was issued a district-owned iPad mini to use in their learning at school and home. Students in grades 10, 11 and 12 will receive an iPad next fall and grades 4, 5 and 6 will be added in fall 2018. Students in preschool through grade 3 will have increased access to classroom-based learning technology devices, phased in over the next four years.

Upgrades to the district's technology infrastructure started this summer with increasing wireless network capacity at all sites and will continue with other projects throughout the three-year construction schedule.

The tentative schedule of all bond projects is available at [www.District196.org](http://www.District196.org) by clicking on the Safe and Successful Schools, Bond Construction Update logo on the right side of the front page. The site also includes aerial footage of the new elementary school construction and drawings of the school.

## Task force recommends attendance area for new elementary school

Changes will take effect for 2017-18 school year

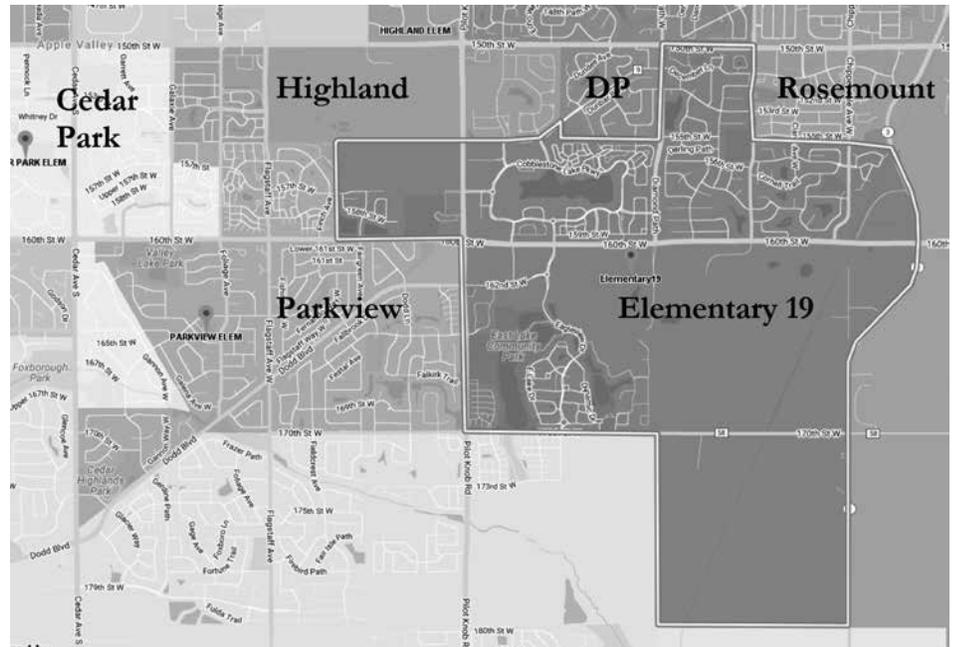
The School Board was expected to approve a recommendation to reconfigure elementary attendance areas at its Nov. 14 meeting, after this issue of *Spotlight* went to press.

The recommendation came from a task force of parents and staff charged with establishing an attendance area for what will become the district's nineteenth elementary school when it opens next fall for the start of the 2017-18 school year. The task force presented a preliminary recommendation to the board in late September and at two community listening sessions for parents in early October. The final recommendation, which did not change from the preliminary, was presented to the board as new business Oct. 24 and scheduled for a vote Nov. 14.

The school is being built at the southwest corner of 160th Street (County Road 46) and Diamond Path in Lakeville, near the district's southern border, in what is currently the Parkview Elementary School attendance area. It will provide relief to overcrowding at Parkview and four adjacent schools resulting from the addition of full-day kindergarten, the expansion of school-based preschool and housing growth in the southern part of the district. Funding for the new school was included in the bond referendum approved by district voters in November 2015.

The recommended attendance area for the new school is comprised of parts of the current attendance areas for Diamond Path, Highland, Parkview, Shannon Park and Rosemount elementary schools. It is an area bounded by Pilot Knob Road and the eastern border of Regatta Park in Apple Valley to the west, 170th Street and the district's southern border to the south, Highway 3 to the east, and 155th Street and County Road 42 along different parts of the area's northern border (*see map*).

There are currently 669 elementary age students living in the recommended attendance area, all of whom may not choose to attend the new school, which is designed for a capacity of 710 students. The task force was instructed to not fill the school completely in the first year in order to leave room for future



*The map shows the recommended attendance area for Elementary 19 (dark shaded area) and portions of the adjacent school attendance areas. The east-west road at the top of the map is County Road 42 and the north-south road in the middle of the map is Pilot Knob Road.*

growth. The district estimates that the undeveloped area immediately south of the new school may eventually be home to as many as 100 additional elementary students when completely developed over the next few years.

Of the 669 elementary students currently living in the area, 31 percent are in the Diamond Path attendance area, 25 percent in Parkview, 22 percent in Shannon Park, 16 percent in Rosemount Elementary and 6 percent in Highland. Enrollments at all five of these schools are currently above building capacity and are projected to be slightly below capacity after the new school opens.

Students living in the attendance area of the new elementary school can choose to stay at their existing school by completing the district's Intradistrict Student Transfer Application (502.4P). All applications submitted by Jan. 5, 2017 will be approved; however, transportation for these transfer students will not be provided by the district, consistent with past practice when opening a new school. The only exception is Diamond Path; transportation will continue to be provided to students who choose to stay at Diamond Path, which is a magnet school with specific funding for transportation.

In addition to establishing an

attendance area for the new elementary school, the task force recommendation includes moving a small part of the Highland attendance area to the Diamond Path attendance area in order to better balance enrollment with growth projections. The triangular area is bounded by a retaining wall west of Dundee Avenue to the west, Dodd Boulevard to the south, Diamond Path to the east and 150th Street (County Road 42) to the north. Students living in this area who choose to stay at Highland will continue to receive transportation for three more years, through the 2019-20 school year. This is also consistent with past practice when moving part of an attendance area to an existing school.

The principles that guided the task force's work included the following: make decisions in the best interest of students; impact the least number of students and schools possible; create contiguous attendance areas and follow natural boundaries; minimize the need for future attendance area adjustments at the impacted schools; consider district averages for students of color and students living in poverty; consider transportation logistics and costs; consider middle and high school attendance areas and city and neighborhood boundaries, and adhere to all state and federal guidelines.

## Calendars approved for next two years

Calendars for the 2017-18 and 2018-19 school years were approved by the School Board this fall.

The approved calendars are similar to the current school year, with 171 days of school for middle school and high school students and 169 days for elementary students, with two days for elementary literacy assessments in late August. School begins the Tuesday after Labor Day, winter break lasts less than two weeks, spring break is the last full week of March and school ends the first full week in June in both calendars.

### 2017-18 School Year

The 2017-18 school year will begin Tuesday, Sept. 5 and the last day of school will be June 5 for elementary students and June 7 for middle school and high school students. High school graduation ceremonies for the Class of 2018 will be held Saturday, June 2. Dates when there will be no school for some or all students are as follows:

- Sept. 29 – Data analysis and instructional alignment day for high schools only
- Oct. 6 – Data analysis and instructional alignment day for elementary and middle schools, and conferences for high schools
- Oct. 19-20 – State teachers’ convention
- Nov. 2-3 – Conferences for elementary and middle schools
- Nov. 3 – Staff development for high schools
- Nov. 23-24 – Thanksgiving break
- Dec. 1 – Staff development for all levels
- Dec. 25-Jan. 1 – Winter break
- Jan. 12 – Data analysis and instructional alignment day for high schools only
- Jan. 15 – Martin Luther King Day
- Jan. 19 – Data analysis and instructional alignment day for elementary and middle schools, and conferences for high schools
- Feb. 8-9 – Conferences for elementary and middle schools
- Feb. 9 – Staff development for high schools
- Feb. 19 – Presidents’ Day
- March 9 – Staff development for all levels

- March 26-30 – Spring break
- April 20 – Data analysis and instructional alignment day for all levels
- May 28 – Memorial Day

### 2018-19 School Year

The 2018-19 school year will begin Tuesday, Sept. 4 and the last day of school will be June 5 for elementary students and June 7 for middle school and high school students. High school graduation ceremonies for the Class of 2019 will be held Saturday, June 1. Dates when there will be no school for some or all students are as follows:

- Sept. 28 – Data analysis and instructional alignment day for high schools only
- Oct. 5 – Data analysis and instructional alignment day for elementary and middle schools, and conferences for high schools
- Oct. 18-19 – State teachers’ convention
- Nov. 1-2 – Conferences for elementary and middle schools
- Nov. 2 – Staff development for high schools
- Nov. 22-23 – Thanksgiving break
- Nov. 30 – Staff development for all levels
- Dec. 24-Jan. 1 – Winter break
- Jan. 11 – Data analysis and instructional alignment day for high schools only
- Jan. 18 – Data analysis and instructional alignment day for elementary and middle schools, and conferences for high schools
- Jan. 21 – Martin Luther King Day
- Feb. 7-8 – Conferences for elementary and middle schools
- Feb. 8 – Staff development for high schools
- Feb. 18 – Presidents’ Day
- March 8 – Staff development for all levels
- March 25-29 – Spring break
- April 19 – Data analysis and instructional alignment day for all levels
- May 27 – Memorial Day

Complete calendars for the current and next two school years, including trimester and quarter dates, are available at [www.District196.org](http://www.District196.org).

## School Board sets proposed tax levy at state maximum

In September, the School Board approved a proposed 2016 (payable 2017) property tax levy at the state maximum levy limitation. At the time it was calculated, the district’s maximum proposed levy was \$88.8 million, approximately \$3.2 million (3.8 percent) more than the current year’s levy of \$85.6 million.

Finance Director **Jeff Solomon** said the three biggest reasons for the levy increase are the voter-approved inflationary increase the district receives each year from the 2013 operating levy, a reduction in state equalization aid that has shifted funding responsibility from the state to the local levy, and enrollment growth.

The maximum levy limitation is determined by the Minnesota Department of Education for each public school district in the state. The School Board will certify a final levy at its Dec. 12 regular meeting. By law, the final levy amount may not be greater than the proposed levy, except for adjustments made by the state.

The district’s proposed levy was submitted to Dakota County, which mailed notices to property owners in mid-November showing estimated taxes based on proposed levies approved by the school district, cities, the county and other taxing agencies.

Solomon said that local school taxes on last year’s \$258,000 average-value home in District 196 will increase by just 0.2 percent next year, if there was no increase in the assessed value of the home. If the assessed value of last year’s average-value home increased to the current district average of \$264,000, Solomon said the increase in school taxes would be approximately 2.8 percent or \$36.42 for the year.

Local property taxes represent approximately 20 percent of the revenues District 196 will receive this year. The other sources are state aids and credits (61 percent), federal aid (4 percent) and the remaining 15 percent from other sources such as self-insurance, gifts, donations and miscellaneous revenues such as food service fees, activity fees and admissions.

## Good jobs available for those who enjoy working with children

The district has immediate openings for quality individuals who enjoy working with children. There are positions open for substitute teachers, clerical/paraprofessional and nurse positions, as well as bus drivers and food service associates as described below. For more information and to apply online, go to [www.District196.org](http://www.District196.org) and click on the "Employment" tab.

**Substitute teacher** pay rates are \$120 for a full day and \$70 for a half day. To be a substitute teacher in District 196, applicants must have a current Minnesota teacher's license or have a four-year degree, obtain a short call substitute license from the state and attend a week-long training workshop.

The **substitute clerical** pay rate is \$11 per hour and **substitute paraprofessional** pay rate is \$12.25 per hour. Applicants must be available Monday through Friday, 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. most weeks; be willing to work as a special education paraprofessional at multiple schools; pass a pre-employment physical and background check; complete online Personal Care Assistant training and attend a clerical orientation session.

The **substitute school nurse** pay rate is \$22 per hour. Applicants must be a licensed LPN or RN (preferred), be available weekdays during the school year and attend a substitute nurse orientation.

The **bus driver** pay rate is \$16.70 per hour and benefits are available to employees who work 25 or more hours per week. Part-time and substitute positions are available, with preference for individuals who can be available for both morning and afternoon routes. Applicants must have a high school diploma or GED, a Minnesota driver's license with a good driving record, enjoy working with children and be able to lift/drag up to 125 pounds. The district provides training to obtain necessary licensure.

The pay rate for **food service associates** is \$14.95 per hour (\$13.20 per hour starting wage for substitutes) plus a complimentary meal each shift. Regular and substitute positions are available, three to five hours per day. Applicants must have a high school diploma or GED and be able to safely lift up to 40 pounds. Responsibilities include food preparation, meal sales and service, cashiering and clean-up.



### Giving the gift of reading

This fall, the Apple Valley Rotary Club generously donated 6,000 books to the district that will be distributed to preschool children, middle school Summer Academy students and students who qualify to receive English Learner services. The books will be distributed at the end of the school year to encourage students to continue reading during the summer months. Superintendent **Jane K. Berenz** accepted the donation at a Rotary meeting in September. Pictured (left to right) are **Janette Snider**, **Clint Hooppaw**, **Berenz**, **Terry Merritt**, **Mark Bodin** and **Scott Ramsdale**.

## Enrollment . . . . .

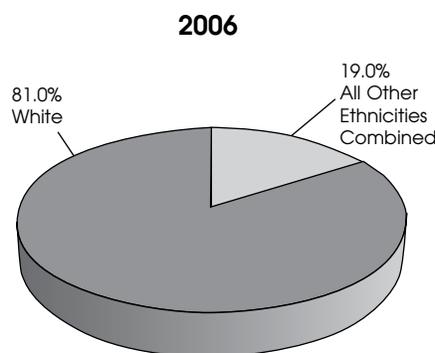
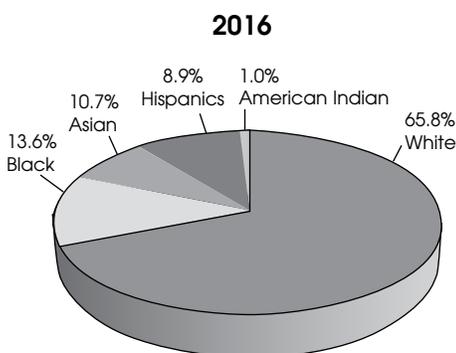
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- 486 students in early childhood special education, a decrease of 19 students from last year.

Students of color now represent 34.2 percent of total enrollment in the district, up 1.4 percent from last year and 15.2 percent more than a decade ago (see charts below). Students who qualify to receive free or reduced-price school meals make up 24.8 percent of this year's enroll-

ment, about the same as last year and more than double what it was 10 years ago. Students receiving special education services represent 14.1 percent of total enrollment, about the same as last year and down 1.6 percent from a decade ago. Students who qualify to receive English Learner (EL) services represent 6.2 percent of total enrollment, the same as last year and up 1.7 percent over 10 years ago.

### Student Ethnicity



## More than 700 students earn AP scholar honors

The College Board recognized 734 District 196 high school students for their performance on Advanced Placement (AP) course exams taken during the 2015-16 school year.

District high schools offer 24 different AP courses which have been audited and approved by the College Board, a non-profit organization of colleges, universities, secondary schools and higher education institutions focused on college readiness programs. Students who complete an AP course can take an optional exam and earn college credit, depending on their score on the exam and admission requirements at the college or university they attend. An AP exam score of 3 or higher (on a scale of 1 to 5) earns credit at many of the nation's colleges and universities.

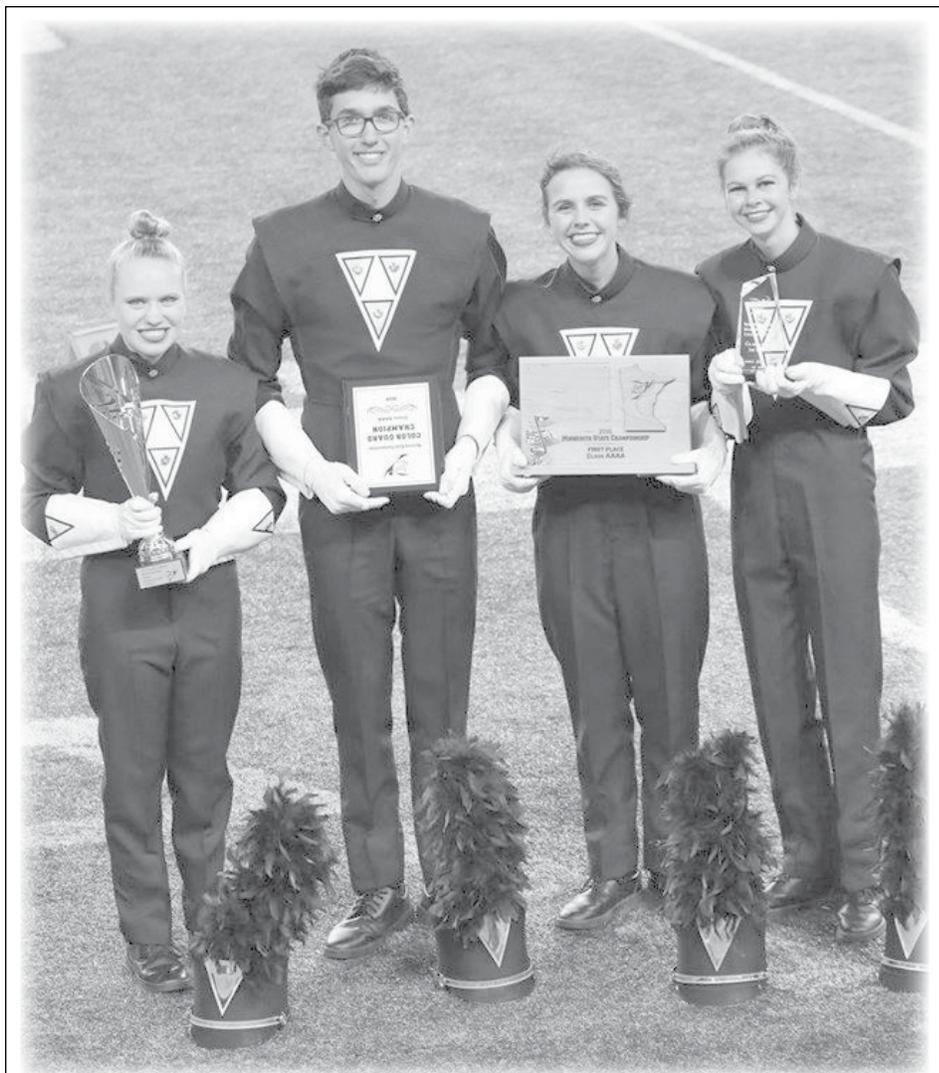
There are four different levels of AP scholar recognition that are defined by the scores received and the number of exams taken during a student's high school career. The top designation is National AP Scholar, which recognizes students who received an average score of at least 4 on all AP exams taken and scores of 4 or higher on eight or more exams. Thirty District 196 students were named National AP Scholars last year. The other designations are AP Scholar with Distinction, AP Scholar with Honor and AP Scholar.

To see the names of all 734 AP scholars in District 196 last year, go to [www.District196.org](http://www.District196.org), News Releases and click on the release dated Sept. 23.

## District high schools make *Newsweek's* Top High Schools ranking

All four, four-year high schools in District 196 made *Newsweek's* ranking of America's Top High Schools for 2016 based on a review of student achievement and college-readiness data.

The ranking includes 500 schools, 18 from Minnesota, including Eagan at 109, Rosemount at 427, Apple Valley at 446 and Eastview at 470. All four also made *Newsweek's* "Beating the Odds" list after local poverty rates were factored in with the achievement and college-readiness data.



## *RHS band marches to another state title*

*The Rosemount High School Marching Band was named Grand Champion at the Minnesota Youth In Music Marching Band Championships in October. One week after the state event, Rosemount and Eastview both performed at the Bands of America Super Regional Championships in St. Louis. Rosemount took first place among Class AAA bands in the preliminary round and finished seventh overall in the finals. They also received special honors for outstanding music performance, visual performance and general effect. Pictured following the state event are drum majors (left to right) **Andrea Gordon, Adam Shew, Isabel Edgar and Colette Edgar.***

## Reach parents with ad on district website

Local businesses interested in reaching potential customers in the state's fourth largest school district are encouraged to partner with District 196 by purchasing an advertising sponsorship on the district website.

Three sponsorship options are available, ranging from \$1,000 to \$1,500, and are prorated from the start of the school year. All three options include a

logo ad that rotates on the front page of [District196.org](http://District196.org) for the entire school year and a larger ad on a dedicated sponsor page with links to the sponsors' websites.

For more information, go to [District196.org/District/Departments/Advertising](http://District196.org/District/Departments/Advertising). To place your ad, contact **Tony Taschner**, district communications director, at 651-423-7775 or [tony.taschner@District196.org](mailto:tony.taschner@District196.org).

## District 196 students outscore state and national ACT averages again

District 196 students scored higher than the state and national averages on the ACT college admissions test in 2016, according to results released this fall.

The average composite score for District 196 students was 23.0 out of a possible 36. The district average dropped 1.4 points from the year before but is still 2.2 points higher than the national average of 20.8 and 1.9 points higher than the state average of 21.1, which was highest among the 18 states that offer the ACT to all students.

The 2016 average composite scores for individual District 196 high schools are as follows:

- Apple Valley High School - 21.1
- Eagan High School - 24.2
- Eastview High School - 24.2
- Rosemount High School - 22.6
- School of Environmental Studies - 23.1

Since 2015, Minnesota law requires that all high school juniors have an opportunity to take the ACT Plus Writing test. At the end of the 2014-15 school year, 1,593 students had taken the ACT at least once. In 2015-16, 2,052 District 196 students had taken the ACT at least once, 459 (29 per-

cent) more than the year before.

This school year, all District 196 juniors will have an opportunity to take the ACT Plus Writing test on April 19, 2017, with a make-up date of May 3.

### ACT Average Composite Scores, 2008-2016

Year	District 196	State	National
<b>2016</b>	<b>23.0</b>	<b>21.1</b>	<b>20.8</b>
2015	24.4	22.7	21.0
2014	24.1	22.9	21.0
2013	24.0	23.0	20.9
2012	24.1	22.8	21.1
2011	24.0	22.9	21.1
2010	24.0	22.9	21.0
2009	23.9	22.7	21.1
2008	23.8	22.6	21.1

## Glacier Hills named a Reward School on state accountability system

Glacier Hills Elementary School of Arts and Science earned recognition as a Reward School on Minnesota's Multiple Measurement Rating (MMR) system for scoring among the top 15 percent of Title I schools in the state this year. MMR scores for all public schools in the state were released by the Minnesota Department of Education (MDE) in September in what will be the last year the measure is used due to changes in federal law.

The MMR uses multiple measures of student achievement based on results on the Minnesota Comprehensive Assessments (MCAs) that students take each spring. The MMR score is represented as a percentage calculated using the combined points a school earns in the following four areas (up to 25 points each):

- Proficiency of the school's students in making adequate yearly progress targets;
- Growth in achievement of the school's students;
- Achievement gap reduction between subgroups of students at the school, and
- Graduation rate (for high schools only).

Schools earn points for the achievement of their students as a whole and within each of the following eight demo-

graphic groups: White, Black, Asian/Pacific Islander, Hispanic, American Indian, students who receive special education services, students who receive English Language (EL) services and students who are eligible for free or reduced-price school meals.

Eight District 196 schools improved their MMR score in 2016, including Glacier Hills at 76.55 percent, Diamond Path Elementary School of International Studies at 79.45 percent, Shannon Park Elementary School at 80.97 percent and Eastview High School, which earned a near perfect 99.39 percent. MMR scores for all Minnesota public schools are available on the MDE website at [www.education.state.mn.us/](http://www.education.state.mn.us/). (Go to the Data Center tab on the top row, select Minnesota Report Card, then select School Performance and enter the school name.)

Schools that have higher concentrations of poverty and receive federal Title I funding may receive an MMR designation. This year, MDE recognized only Reward Schools, which represent the top 15 percent of Title I schools in the state. The nine Title I schools in District 196 are all elementary schools. Not all Title I schools receive an MMR designation, nor do any schools that do not receive Title I funding.

Members of the district's Teaching and Learning Department have been meeting with principals and teachers this fall to

review each school's MMR scores, identify areas of strength and weakness in student achievement and discuss ways to increase the achievement of all students going forward.

This will be the last year for the MMR system, as the state transitions from requirements of the federal No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act to a new system that will align with the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) approved by Congress last December. MDE staff is reaching out to educators, parents, students and others to gather input on what should be included in the state's new accountability system under ESSA beginning in 2017.

### Optional transportation service is available

The district offers optional transportation service for a fee for families whose children are not eligible for free transportation based on current service distances.

The annual cost is \$275 per student, with a \$550 family maximum. Families whose children qualify to receive free or reduced-price school meals receive the service for a discounted rate.

For more information, go to the Transportation Department page at [District196.org](http://District196.org) or call 651-423-7685.

### High school students and senior adults get free admission to sports

Starting this fall, District 196 high school students and senior adults age 62 and older can attend in-district regular season athletic events for free.

High school seniors get in free to regular season athletic events, except football and boys' and girls' hockey. Senior adults get in free to all regular season athletic events held in District 196.

The previous admission fee was \$5 for senior adults and high school students, who continue to pay that amount to attend football and hockey games. The change was proposed by school administration to increase attendance among high school students and to provide a benefit for senior adults who attend regular season athletic events in the district. The policy change was approved by the School Board in September and went into effect immediately.

Admission for all non-high school students attending in-district regular season athletic events remains \$5. Admission fees for plays and musical productions remain the same for students and senior adults.

### District 196 students earned \$2.9 million in U of M credits last year

During the 2015-16 school year, District 196 high school students who participated in the College in the Schools (CIS) program earned a combined 6,182 college credits valued at more than \$2.9 million, according to a value statement released by the University of Minnesota's CIS program.

CIS is a program where students earn college credits taking advanced courses at their high school that are taught by their high school teachers. There were 825 students from the five District 196 high schools that registered for 1,436 courses last year, 75 more than the previous year.

At the 2015-16 U of M tuition rate of \$470.77 per credit, the 6,182 credits earned by District 196 students are valued at \$2,910,300. The school district paid the university \$208,220 (\$145 per course) for the students to take these college-credit courses at their high schools last year.

CIS is one of several opportunities available for District 196 students to earn college credit while attending classes at their high school.



Most of this year's National Merit scholars posed for a group photo after being recognized at a School Board meeting in October.

### Forty-eight seniors are National Merit scholars

Sixteen District 196 high school seniors have been named semifinalists in the 2016-17 National Merit Scholarship Program and another 32 seniors are being recognized as National Merit commended students based on tests they took last year. The names of the semifinalists and commended students in this 62nd annual scholarship program were released this fall by the National Merit Scholarship Corporation.

The 16 National Merit semifinalists from District 196 are:

- **Chase Rapp** of Apple Valley High School;
- **Elizabeth Bartlett, Arunima Bhattacharya, Bryce Collison, Jonathan David, Lauren Kalina, Lauren Markowski, Benjamin Pankow, Raj Purohit, Rylee Smith** and **Rosella Stower** of Eagan High School;
- **Ryan Chen** and **Athena Hatfield** of Eastview High School, and
- **Isabel Edgar, Trevor Liggett** and **Dominic Voto** of Rosemount High School.

Students are selected as semifinalists based on their scores on the Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT), which they take as juniors. Semifinalists rank in the top 1 percent of the approximately 1.6 million high school juniors who took the test last year in the United States. The semifinalists may

submit additional information to be considered for selection as a finalist. Students named National Merit finalists will compete for more than 7,500 scholarships totaling \$33 million that will be awarded in the spring by businesses, colleges and universities, and the National Merit Scholarship Corporation.

In addition to semifinalists, the National Merit program also recognizes students whose scores on the PSAT/NMSQT rank them in the top 5 percent of students nationwide. In District 196, the following 32 seniors are commended students for 2016-17:

- **Henry Dikeman, Emilia Galchutt, Sarah Grambo** and **Abigail Loe** of Apple Valley High;
- **Patrick Acton, Alexander Beaudin, Trevor Burgoyne, Patrick Collins, Kirsten Elliott, Paul Filonowich, Benjamin Flanagan, Alyssa Jolliffe, Alexa Koch, Jackson Lee, Andrew Marell, Jacob Mox, Dylan Schuller** and **Zhen Tu** of Eagan High;
- **Nansea Ji, Pranav Julakanti, Osman Mansur, Sean Mather, Nicole McMahon, Jenna Smith** and **Jeffrey Zhu** of Eastview High;
- **Hannah Betters, Evelyn Doran, David Lencioni, Laura Rietveld, Michael Somsky** and **Alexander Zhu** of Rosemount High, and
- **Hanalei Lewine** of the School of Environmental Studies.

## Time is now to apply for magnet school enrollment in 2017-18

The period for parents in District 196 to apply for their child to attend a magnet school in the 2017-18 school year opened Nov. 9 and runs through Jan. 9, 2017 for the five elementary magnet schools and Nov. 9 through Jan. 20, 2017 for Valley Middle School of STEM.

The magnet school applications are available at [www.District196.org/MagnetSchools](http://www.District196.org/MagnetSchools).

The five elementary magnet schools are Cedar Park Elementary Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) School in Apple Valley, Diamond Path Elementary School of International Studies in Apple Valley, Echo Park Elementary School of Leadership, Engineering and Technology in Burnsville, Glacier Hills Elementary School of Arts and Science in Eagan and Oak Ridge Elementary School of Leadership, Environmental and Health Sciences in Eagan. Valley is the middle school level of the district's STEM pathway of schools K-12.

Parents can learn more about the elementary magnet schools during spotlight events at each school Dec. 6 at 10 a.m. and 6:30 p.m., and Jan. 5 at 10 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. The spotlight on Valley Middle School of STEM will be held Jan. 10 at 10 a.m. and 6:30 p.m., and Jan. 12 at 10 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.

Any district student who will be in elementary or middle school in the 2017-18 school year can apply to attend a magnet school. Enrollment at the magnet schools is determined by lottery and is limited to space available at each school and grade level. Students residing in the district who are selected for magnet school enrollment receive transportation if they live more than one mile from the school.

The elementary magnet school lottery will be held after the Jan. 9 application deadline. Parents of students selected for enrollment in the lottery will be notified of their child's selection by the end of January and will be asked to confirm their child's enrollment for the 2017-18 school year.

More information about the magnet schools and the application process is available at [www.District196.org/MagnetSchools](http://www.District196.org/MagnetSchools) or by calling Magnet Schools and Innovative Programs Teacher on Special Assignment **Tony Eatchel** at 651-423-7810.



### Talking with Tony O!

Minnesota Twins legend **Tony Oliva** visited Westview Elementary School Sept. 29 to talk with students in the Guys Read Book Club about working hard in school, always giving their best, never giving up and being kind to everyone. He also shared stories from his past about facing adversity. The boys read "Honus and Me" by Dan Gutman prior to Oliva's visit and discussed the book while he was there. Afterward, they enjoyed hot dogs and juice together.

## District wins \$4.6 million magnet schools grant

District 196 is one of nine school districts in the country and the only one in Minnesota to receive a Magnet School Assistance Program grant from the U.S. Department of Education this fall.

The grant will provide the district \$4.6 million over the next three years to support continued development of its two newest magnet schools that opened this fall, Echo Park Elementary School of Leadership, Engineering and Technology in Burnsville and Oak Ridge Elementary School of Leadership, Environmental and Health Sciences in Eagan.

Echo Park and Oak Ridge were designated "racially identifiable" schools by the state two years ago for having enrollments of students of color that are at least 20 percent higher than the district average. As a result, the state Desegregation Rule required the district to develop and implement a plan to help improve racial balance at both schools.

Faced with the same situation in 2004 at Cedar Park and Glacier Hills elementary schools, the district converted them and Diamond Path Elementary into theme-based magnets in hopes of attracting a more diverse mix of students. All three

have been recognized as Schools of Excellence by Magnet Schools of America for the quality of their programs and racial balance has improved at Glacier Hills Elementary School of Arts and Science and Cedar Park Elementary Science, Technology, Engineering and Math School since they opened as magnets in 2007.

"Magnet schools help break down barriers that too often get in the way of our highest need students attending diverse, well-resourced schools," U.S. Secretary of Education **John B. King Jr.** said. "These grants will expand learning opportunities for students and help districts foster schools that reflect the full diversity of their communities."

Teaching and Learning Coordinator **Cathy Kindem** said the district will use the grant money at Echo Park and Oak Ridge to offset the cost of providing technology upgrades and theme-based learning materials that are used at magnet schools.

In addition to the five elementary magnet schools, the district also offers Valley Middle School of STEM and Apple Valley High School in its K-12 STEM education pathway of schools on the west side of the district.

# High school registration process for 2017-18 begins in January

Students in grades 8-11 at all District 196 middle schools and high schools will soon receive course information to register for the 2017-18 school year. All schools use online registration. School-specific information is listed below.

### Apple Valley High

**Grades 9-11:** The pre-registration process will begin in early January. A parent meeting will be held Jan. 10, with information about PSEO courses at 6 p.m. and college planning and registration at 7 p.m. Online registration will be available through Jan. 25. Specific information will be given to students during counselor visits to classrooms in early January.

**Grade 8:** Students from Falcon Ridge and Valley middle schools will visit Apple Valley High School Jan. 11. An optional parent information meeting will be held Jan. 10 at 7:30 p.m. The online registration process will be explained in a mailing to all eighth-grade families in December.

### Eagan High

**Grades 9-11:** Students will receive information about the process and timeline in PAWS class on Jan. 18.

**Grade 8:** Parents of students at Black

Hawk and Dakota Hills middle schools will receive a letter in December about the online registration process. There will be a parent meeting Jan. 9 at 6 p.m. to share more information about registration.

### Eastview High

**Grades 9-11:** Students will receive registration materials in homeroom Feb. 7 and will complete the online registration process during homeroom Feb. 16. Course request confirmations will be received in homeroom March 1.

**Grade 8:** Parents will receive a letter in December with information about the online registration process and timeline. A parent meeting and open house will be held Jan. 3 at 6:30 p.m. Students will receive registration materials during visits to Eastview on Jan. 10 for Black Hawk Middle School students and Jan. 11 for students at Falcon Ridge and Scott Highlands middle schools. Jan. 19 is the deadline for middle school students to complete online registration and return their forms.

### Rosemount High

**Grades 9-11:** Registration information will be distributed to students in home-

room Jan. 9 and a parent meeting will be held Jan. 5 at 7 p.m. Online registration begins Jan. 18; the deadline to complete registration is Jan. 23.

**Grade 8:** Parents will receive a letter in December with information about the online registration process and timeline. A parent information meeting will be held Jan. 12 at 7 p.m. Registration information will be distributed to students during a visit to Rosemount High Jan. 11. Online registration begins Jan. 18; the deadline to complete registration is Jan. 23.

### School of Environmental Studies

**Grades 11:** Registration meetings will coincide with the students' home high school registration meetings. Information will be distributed during the registration homeroom at the home high school for all students accepted to SES for the 2017-18 school year. A registration information session will be held for students and parents Jan. 9 from 6 to 7 p.m.

**Grade 12:** The first registration meeting for all students who will be seniors is scheduled for Jan. 10. Course selections must be completed by Jan. 24.

## Applications to attend SES due December 19

Students interested in enrolling at the School of Environmental Studies (SES) for the 2017-18 school year must complete an online application by Dec. 19. The application is available at [www.sesmn.org](http://www.sesmn.org).

SES is an optional high school for juniors and seniors. The 400-student theme-based school is located on the grounds of the Minnesota Zoo in Apple Valley.

Informational meetings will be held for all current sophomores Dec. 5 at Eastview High, Dec. 6 at Apple Valley High, Dec. 8 at Eagan High and Dec. 9 at Rosemount High. Sophomores who would like to tour SES during the school day can do so two days after the presentation at their high school.

Informational meetings for interested high school students and their parents will be held Dec. 14 and 15, 6:30-8 p.m. both nights; attend only one meeting. For more information, call the school at 952-431-8750.



### Become a Learning Buddy

**Pam Huntoon** of Apple Valley worked with students at Westview Elementary School last year as a volunteer for the DARTS Learning Buddies Program. Volunteers typically spend one to two hours per week helping individual students enhance their reading, math and science skills. The program is offered in eight area school districts, including 13 of the 18 elementary schools in District 196. Volunteers attend an orientation and receive ongoing training and support. To learn more or to sign up to become a Learning Buddy, call **Erin Walloch** at 651-234-2227.

# Congratulations!

A sampling of recent student and staff achievements throughout District 196

The **Rosemount High School girls' soccer team** finished runner-up in the Class AA state tournament Nov. 3. The Irish defeated Minnetonka and Minneapolis Washburn in the quarter-final and semifinal rounds, and lost to Centennial 2-1 in the championship game. **Carolyn Ciriacks, Megan Dahl, Jasmine Finley** and **Jadyn Scholler** were named to the Class AA All-Tournament Team.

**Mackenzie Novak** and **Karin Young** of Eastview High School finished fourth in the doubles competition of the girls' state tennis tournament in October.

Apple Valley High School junior **Gable Steveson** defeated a wrestler from Russia to win his second consecutive world wrestling championship in September in Tbilisi, Georgia. Steveson was a member of Team USA, which finished second in the team competition at the world championships.

Six District 196 students won regional awards and were nominated for the National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences first-ever national Student Production Awards this fall. Apple Valley High School students **Emily Severson, Ivan Calixto** and **Matt Kotlan** were nominated in the general assignment-serious news category and Eastview High School students **Jack Groves** and **Peter Liffbrig** were nominated for their video essay and **Michael Sturgill** in the animation/graphics/special effects category.

**George Beran**, physical education teacher at Greenleaf Elementary School, has been selected to receive the 2016 Paul Schmidt Award from the Minnesota Society of Health and Physical



Educators. The award recognizes the outstanding services and contributions given by an elementary or secondary teacher or supervisor in the fields of health, physical education, recreation or dance. Beran has been a physical education teacher in District 196 for 23 years, all at Greenleaf. He received the award in November at a ceremony in Bloomington.

Rosemount High School French Teacher **Clare Hagen** was named 2016 Minnesota French Teacher of the Year



## Eagan girls take second in team tennis

The Eagan High School girls' tennis team finished runner-up to Mahtomedi in the team portion of the state tennis tournament in late October. Members of the team are (front row, left to right): **Haven Langley, Eesha Varma, Alyssa Luecke, Katherine Krska, Chloe Asuncion, Lauren Ferg, Halle McGuire, Anna Schmit**, (back row) **Elizabeth McMahon, Samantha Nichols, Head Coach Scott Nichols, Assistant Coach Steve Johnston, Raechel Murray, Avalon Langley and Taylor Luecke**. *Varma and Ferg also competed in doubles and Nichols in the singles competition.*

by the state chapter of the American Association of Teachers of French.

Deerwood Elementary School Media Specialist **Dawn Lyons** received an Intellectual Freedom Award for her work defending a book during a reconsideration request last school year. The award recognizes an educator who has contributed to preserving students' rights to intellectual freedom and opposing censorship in a school setting.

Scott Highlands Middle School Band Teacher **Nancy Dostal** has been selected the 2016-17 Minnesota Music Educator of the Year by the Minnesota Music Educators Association. The award recognizes teachers who have demonstrated excellence in music teaching and learning, and requires a minimum of 10



years teaching experience and service to music education outside of their district. Dostal has taught band in District 196 for 34 years, primarily at Scott Highlands. She will be recognized at the MMEA Mid-Winter Clinic in February.

The **Rosemount and Eagan boys' cross-country teams** finished first and second, respectively, in the Section 3AA meet and qualified to compete in the state cross-country meet Nov. 5, after this issue of *Spotlight* went to press.

**Apple Valley High School Jazz Ensemble I** was selected by recorded audition to perform for band directors from throughout the state at the Minnesota Music Educators' Association Mid-Winter Clinic Feb. 16 in Minneapolis. The ensemble includes approximately 25 students and is directed by **David Scalise**. This is the sixth time Apple Valley's Jazz Ensemble I has been selected to perform at the annual event.

# Weather-related decisions based on safety and communicated broadly

With the arrival of winter comes the possibility of school cancellations or delayed starts due to inclement weather. While “snow days” may be fun for students, the district does not take closing school lightly and wants students to be in school whenever possible. District leaders understand these decisions impact many families throughout the district who need to arrange care for their children when school is not in session.

The over-riding concern in making these decisions is the safety of students, staff and others in the community. Several factors are considered, including road conditions and visibility, snow depth, wind chill, the weather forecast for the remainder of the day and the actions of other districts in our area. The superintendent makes these decisions based on what is best for all children in the district. If parents are ever concerned about sending their child to school because of weather conditions, it is always the parents’ choice to keep their child at home.

### If the decision is made to either

**delay or cancel school**, the information will be communicated to district employees and parents via an early-morning phone call from the superintendent using the SchoolConnects mass notification service to which the district subscribes. In addition, the cancellation or delay will be communicated in the following ways:

- On the banner of the district website at District196.org (this is where information appears first) and on the district’s Facebook page;
- On all four Twin Cities television network affiliate stations and WCCO-AM (830) radio. Look/listen for the “Rosemount-Apple Valley-Eagan Public Schools,” and
- On the district information line recording at 651-423-7777.

**If school is canceled**, all daytime and after-school community education activities, including early childhood and Adult Basic Education (ABE) are also canceled, as well as all elementary and middle school after-school and evening activities.

YMCA School-Age Care (SAC) will be canceled when there is a snow-related cancellation; SAC will be held at pre-determined locations if there is a temperature-related school cancellation. Decisions about whether to hold evening high school and community education activities are communicated on the district website and information line.

**If the opening of school is delayed**, all school buses operate on a normal, but two-hour delayed schedule and the following activities are canceled: morning and afternoon early childhood special education (ECSE) and early childhood family education (ECFE) classes, morning and afternoon Connections Preschool classes and morning community education activities, including SAC and ABE.

**If severe weather develops during the school day**, schedules may change and would be communicated via the SchoolConnects service and on the district website, information line and television/radio stations.

# Deadlines in January for parents to request school transfers for 2017-18

District 196 students may apply to attend a different school within the district (intradistrict transfer) or to attend school in a different district (interdistrict transfer) for a number of reasons detailed below.

In order to balance enrollment between schools, the district limits transfers to any particular school to building capacity plus 5 percent for district residents (intradistrict transfer) and building capacity for non-district residents (interdistrict transfer).

## Intradistrict Transfers

Elementary school students (grades K-5) may request a transfer from one District 196 elementary school to another based on the following situations:

- Daycare – if the student will be receiving daycare in the attendance area of a school other than the student’s designated school.
- Intent to change residency – if the student’s parent or guardian intends to move to a new residence within the school year and designates a mailing address for their new residence.
- Parent/guardian request – based on space available in the requested school. If one of the three magnet schools is requested, parents must

submit an application by Jan. 9, 2017 to be considered in the random selection process.

For more information, contact your child’s elementary school or the district’s Student Information Department at 651-423-7640.

Secondary school students (grades 6-12) may request a transfer from one District 196 secondary school to another based on the following situations:

- Intent to change residency – if the student’s parent or guardian, or the adult student (age 18 or older) intends to move to a new residence within the school year and designates a mailing address for their new residence.
- Continued enrollment of an 11th or 12th grade student – if an 11th or 12th grade student has been enrolled in a District 196 school and their parent or guardian (or the adult student, if age 18 or older) has moved to the attendance area of another District 196 school.
- Parent/guardian/adult student request – based on space available in the requested school.

**Intradistrict transfer applications are due by Jan. 5 to be considered for enrollment in the next school year.**

For more information, contact your child’s school or Student Information at 651-423-7640.

## Interdistrict Transfers

Students living outside the district may apply to enroll in District 196 schools through the state’s Enrollment Options Program. **Nonresident students are encouraged to apply to the district by Jan. 15 to be considered for enrollment in the following school year.**

Nonresident applicants are also encouraged to request the school(s) they wish to attend but, in accordance with state law, the district will assign transfer students to schools which have space. Students who are accepted under the Enrollment Options Program will be permitted to remain in the district through grade 12, but will be assigned to schools that have space available.

Applications for enrollment under the Enrollment Options Program are available by calling Student Information at 651-423-7640.

District 196 students may also apply to attend school in a different district. For more information, contact the school district the student would like to attend.

Eagan High School Presents

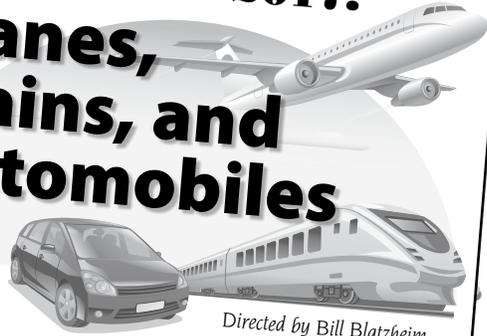
**ENCORE! 2016**  
**"a child's dream"**  
 Directed by Randy Schafer



December 9, 10, 15, 16 and 17 at 7 p.m.  
 December 11 at 3 p.m.  
 Senior Citizen Free Preview December 7 at 3:30 p.m.  
 \$7 adults - \$5 seniors - \$5 students  
 Call 651-683-6964 • [www.eagan.k12.mn.us](http://www.eagan.k12.mn.us)

Apple Valley High School Presents

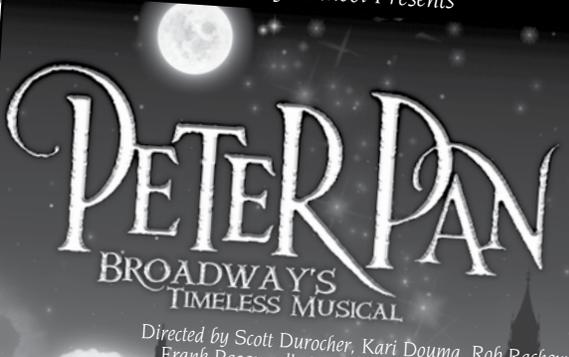
**BROADWAY 2017:**  
**Planes, Trains, and Automobiles**  
 Directed by Bill Blatzheim



February 24, 25 and March 3, 4 at 7 p.m.  
 February 26 and March 5 at 2 p.m.  
 Senior Citizen Free Preview February 23 at 3 p.m.  
 \$9 adults - \$7 seniors - \$5 students  
 Call 952-431-8208 • [www.seatyourself.biz/avhs](http://www.seatyourself.biz/avhs)

Eastview High School Presents

**PETER PAN**  
 BROADWAY'S TIMELESS MUSICAL  
 Directed by Scott Durocher, Kari Douma, Rob Rachow, Frank Pasquerella, Michael Gruber and Kay Huhner



December 8, 9, 10, 15, 16 and 17 at 7 p.m.  
 December 11 and 17 at 2 p.m.  
 Senior Citizen Free Preview December 6 at 3:30 p.m.  
 \$9 adults - \$7 seniors - \$5 students  
 Call 952-431-8955  
<http://www.evperformingarts.com/ticket-info/>

Rosemount High School Presents

**LEGALLY BLONDE**  
 The Musical  
 Directed by Nathan Miller, Christina Morris, Laura Sandham, and Mark Hubbard



December 8, 9 and 10 at 7 p.m.  
 December 11 at 2 p.m.  
 Senior Citizen Free Preview December 6 at 3:30 p.m.  
 \$9 adults - \$7 seniors - \$5 students  
 Call 651-423-7540  
[www.District196.org/rhs/theaterarts/tickets](http://www.District196.org/rhs/theaterarts/tickets)

Coming Events

Apple Valley High

- Holiday Band Concert, Dec. 5, 7 p.m.
- Holiday Choir Concert, Dec. 19, 7 p.m.
- Jazz Ensemble, Jan. 12, 7 p.m.
- Panorama of Bands, Jan. 16, 7 p.m.

Eagan High

- Holiday Vocal Concerts, Dec. 19, 6 and 7:30 p.m.
- Pyramid Jazz Concert, Dec. 20, 7 p.m.
- Mid-Winter Band Concert, Jan. 23, 7 p.m.
- Drumline Invitational, Feb. 4, 6 p.m.

Eastview High

- Winter Choral Concerts, Dec. 19, 6 and 8 p.m.
- Winter Band Concerts, Jan. 9, 6 and 8 p.m.
- Winter Dance Show, Jan. 22, 7 p.m.
- Jazz Showcase, Feb. 6, 7 p.m.

Rosemount High

- Holiday Choral Concerts, Dec. 19, 6 and 7:30 p.m.
- Day of Percussion, Jan. 7, all day
- Winter Band Concert, Jan. 9, 6 and 8 p.m.
- Dance Shows, Feb. 24 and 25, 7 p.m.

**Independent School District 196  
Rosemount-Apple Valley-Eagan Public Schools**

3455 153rd Street West  
Rosemount, MN 55068

School Board

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Permit No. 1

**Time Value Material  
Please Deliver Promptly**

**Community Education**

engage • inspire • enrich



**Move & groove with Project Explore**

Adults with disabilities move and groove to the beat of music. Use hand weights to tone and develop muscles. Enjoy relaxation and stress reduction through gentle yoga. Learn breathing techniques and poses that promote strength and wellness. Walk for well-being and exercise. For more adults with disabilities programs visit [www.District196.org/projectexplore](http://www.District196.org/projectexplore) or call **651-423-7931**.



**new Learn on Saturdays with Early Childhood Family Education | ECFE**

Are you a busy parent looking for a Saturday class? Enroll in *Love and*

*Logic for Early Childhood*, based on the book by Jim and Charles Fay. Learn techniques to identify common myths about discipline, plant seeds of responsibility and turn misbehavior into wisdom. Your children will experience an educational play program in our early childhood classroom. For more information visit [www.District196.org/ecfe](http://www.District196.org/ecfe) or call **952-388-1953**.

Visit [www.District196.org/ce](http://www.District196.org/ce) for more!

**Have you heard about fab lab?**

A fab lab is a community inventors' workshop offering digital fabrication for new products that can be built by you! Parents and children in grades 3 to 12 can explore the design process, machines and materials to create innovative objects of their own using a vinyl cutter, laser engraver, 3-D printer and/or CNC milling machine. Adults can be certified on the machines and use the fab lab during open lab times. Visit [www.District196.org/ce](http://www.District196.org/ce) or call **651-423-7920** for more information.

**Volunteer: we need you!**

Are you interested in helping adults improve their skills so they can move ahead in their jobs, prepare for further education or improve their daily lives? Consider volunteering in our Adult Basic Education | ABE classrooms. Morning and evening positions are available in Apple Valley. Want to know more? Check out District 196 ABE on Facebook.

Complete the application and/or email [abe@District196.org](mailto:abe@District196.org) or call **952-431-8316**.



**Get fit, get in shape at a school near you**

Check out these adult fitness opportunities this winter:

- **Fresh Start to Exercise** – two sessions, Tuesdays, Dec. 6 and 13, 6:30-8 p.m. at Falcon Ridge Middle School, \$35.
- **Indoor Cycling** – five sessions, Mondays, Dec. 12-Jan. 30 (skipping Dec. 26, Jan. 2 and 16), 5:15-6 p.m. at Rosemount Middle School, \$39.
- **Gentle Yoga with Ronda** – four sessions, Thursdays, Dec. 1-22, 6:30-7:30 p.m. at Northview Elementary School, \$35.
- **Water Exercise** – Monday and Wednesday evenings, and Saturday mornings at Scott Highlands Middle School. Drop in and pay \$7 to the lifeguard per workout or purchase a \$55 punch card good for 10 workouts. Visit [www.District196.org/swim](http://www.District196.org/swim) for more adult fitness and training in the pool or call 952-431-8777 for more information.

ROSEMOUNT • APPLE VALLEY • EAGAN  
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Providing quality lifelong learning opportunities for all residents. • [www.District196.org/ce](http://www.District196.org/ce) • 651-423-7920 • 15180 Canada Avenue, Rosemount, MN 55068